

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID L.
MCKEEHAN

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to David L. McKeehan, the President and Chief Executive Officer of the North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce (NCMCC). After 30 years of dedicated service, Dave will be retiring from the Chamber of Commerce on December 31, 2014.

Dave formed the North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce by merging the Fitchburg and Leominster Chambers of Commerce, along with smaller business groups. Over the course of his tenure, he procured over \$4.5 million in private sector funding and over \$1 million in government grants for economic development programming in the region. Under his leadership, the Chamber of Commerce has grown a community of business memberships reaching over 1,000 member firms that employ upward of 25,000 individuals in the cities of Leominster and Fitchburg and surrounding towns. Dave was instrumental in the creation as well as saving of jobs within North Central Massachusetts during his years at the Chamber.

Dave is a true leader within the community and Chambers across the country. His hard work and dedication was recognized when he was awarded the "Service Above Self Award" by Mount Wachusett Community College for his contribution to the school as well as the 29 surrounding cities. Dave was also recognized by Fitchburg State University as being one of the "100 Most Influential People in the Last 100 Years." When David officially retires, the Chamber of Commerce will lose a remarkable president and asset to their organization.

I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating David McKeehan on his retirement and wishing him the very best with his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 95TH
BIRTHDAY OF WILLIAM B. WILKINS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to honor Mr. William B. Wilkins on the occasion of his 95th birthday.

Mr. Wilkins was born October 31, 1919 in Anniston, Alabama and was married to Ms. Eunice B. Wilkins for 72 years. He served in the United States Air Force for two years spending 18 months in Europe during World War II.

Mr. Wilkins resides at Col. Robert L. Howard State Veterans Home and enjoys spending time with his fellow Veterans.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Mr. Wilkins for his selfless service to our country and celebrating his 95th birthday today.

RECOGNIZING PENNY MOORE AS
THE HURLBURT AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION CHAPTER 398 MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR FOR 2014

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Ms. Penny Moore as the Hurlburt Air Force Association Chapter 398 Middle School Teacher of the Year for 2014. Ms. Moore was among three educators selected throughout Northwest Florida for her inspiring efforts to bolster her students' interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education, and I am pleased to honor her outstanding achievements.

The never-ending yearning to help others is the foundation on which Ms. Moore has built her success as an educator. Prior to moving to Northwest Florida, Ms. Moore worked as a special needs teacher inspiring students at Churchill Academy in Montgomery, Alabama. She has since spent the last decade of her professional career teaching at Avalon Middle School in Milton, Florida. Her willingness and constant ability to adapt to the ever-changing needs of her students is a challenge that Ms. Moore embraces and is furthermore evidence of her passion to mold and enlighten the minds of our Nation's youth.

While she holds high expectations for her students and works diligently with them to master theory and practice, she also inspires and motivates her students to rise to the occasion and put theory into practice. Under her leadership and guidance as the school's science, technology, engineering, activity and math (STEAM) team, nearly 100 students from all grade levels have competed in boosting engineering, science, and technology (BEST) robotics competitions and the Science Olympiad and have represented Northwest Florida at state and national competitions. Furthermore, Ms. Moore recognizes the importance for her students to experience science and technology outside of the classroom and affords them the unique opportunity to visit the Flight Adventure Deck and the National Naval Aviation Museum aboard Naval Air Station Pensacola, where students complete preparatory lessons and apply their knowledge of what they have learned through hands-on activities at the Adventure Deck.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Ms. Moore on this well-earned achievement of Hurlburt Air Force Association Chapter 398 Middle School Teacher of the Year for 2014 and thank her for her commitment to service and dedication to the Northwest Florida community. My wife Vicki joins me in wishing Ms. Moore all the best for continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, September 15, I missed a rollcall vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on No. 497.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 74TH ANNUAL ANNANDALE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AWARDS BANQUET AND INSTALLATION

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Annandale Volunteer Fire Department and to congratulate the 2014 award recipients and incoming 2015 officers and board members.

The Annandale Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department is one of 12 volunteer fire departments in Fairfax County, and since its founding in 1940, it has provided lifesaving, fire suppression/prevention, and emergency medical/rescue services to the residents of the Annandale area and the surrounding community. The AVFD owns two stations, Station 8 on Columbia Pike and Station 23 on Little River Turnpike, and its front line fleet includes two ambulances, a medic, two engines, and one canteen unit. The Department also provides opportunities for professional growth and development of the membership.

The most valuable assets of the AVFD are the volunteers who donate their time and resources in service to our community. Last year alone, these highly skilled and committed volunteers contributed in excess of 15,000 hours responding to emergency incidents, attending training, and fundraising. Each year the AVFD recognizes those volunteers who have excelled in service and commitment, and it is my honor to enter the following names of the 2014 Annandale Volunteer Fire Department award recipients into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Outstanding Service Award (4 recipients): Kathleen Hinman, Richard Mitchell, Jason Pavelko, William 'Bill' Richmond.

Highest Administrative Hours Award: Shirley Binsky.

Admin Member of the Year: Walter Ferrebee and Diana Phan.

Rookie Members of the Year (two recipients): Nicole Dellinger and Kelly Kardos.

Most Training Hours: Yuan Yao.

Most Riding Hours: Chessy Dintruff.

Support Member of the Year: Fran Carfaro.

President's Award: Anthony 'Tony' Ruth.

Chief's Award: Laura Dye.

EMS Provider of the Year: Sean Bhaty and James Tuttle.

Firefighter of the Year: Robert Melgar.

Additionally, I wish to congratulate and thank the following men and women who have agreed to assume additional responsibilities as officers and board members for 2015:

Chief: Roger Waller.

President: Gary Moore.

Vice President: Sean Bhaty.

Treasurer: Ronald Waller.

Secretary: Diana Phan.

Directors: Shirley Binsky, Michael Hassan, and Peter Snitzer.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the 2014 award recipients and in commending the Annandale Volunteer Fire Department for 74 years of service. I thank the brave volunteers whose dedication to public safety is deserving of our highest praise, and to each of these men and women I say: "Stay safe."